

LAWRENCE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ALLIANCE
MINUTES
April 24, 2018
5:00 P.M.
Manager's Conference Room

Present: Lisa Snyder, Project Graduation
Lt. Joe Amodio, Police Representative
Susan Stahley, Community Representative
Ann DeGennaro, Superintendent of Schools Representative
Jeff Radice, Recreation
Eva MacDuff, Community Representative
Carol Chamberlain, Chairperson
Brynn Holbrook, Assistant Coordinator
Malissa Arnold, Program Coordinator, Mercer Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction (MCADA)

Absent: Susan Varga, Community Representative
Naeem Aktar, Community Representative
Nancy Bergen, Superintendent of Recreation
Kelly Nitti, Community Representative
Dr. David Maffei, Mayor, Council Liaison

1. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the February 27, 2018 meeting and notes from the March 27, 2018 meeting were reviewed and approved pending corrections.

2. Grant Activity Reports

PETS/CIA – Ann Degennaro reported that some high school students have been NARCAN trained. On April 20th, a Natural High program was held and included a guest speaker. After the program, students signed contracts vowing to lead healthy lives. A healthy versus unhealthy relationship program is being started. An anti-vaping campaign has begun in the high school, starting with the hanging of informational flyers in bathrooms to inform students who vape of the consequences associated with vaping. Ann reported that she recently took part in a podcast about vaping in conjunction with the middle school principal. The podcast is aimed toward parents of middle schoolers. A similar podcast may occur with the BRONC.

Degennaro discussed a recent revision in the high school's drug policy. Starting next year, any student who is caught vaping will be subject to a drug test. Students caught vaping will also be suspended from all extracurricular activities until they complete a multi-week program about drugs.

Ann is working on having students at the high school complete a social norms survey before the end of the school year. Focus groups for the survey have already been completed.

Campfire – Eva MacDuff reported that Teens on Fire will be doing a car wash on May 5th from 8:30 am until noon. Campfire is hosting a 5K on May 19th in the Hamilton Veteran’s park. Registration begins at 8:30 am, and the 5K will start at 9:00; the community fair is being held after the 5K. Count on Me Kids and Little Kids College have ended in Eldridge.

Project Graduation – Lisa Snyder reported that Mr. LHS is coming up on May 4th at 7:00 pm. The event will be held at Lawrence High School. Parents Who Host Stickers will be placed on concessions. Two additional upcoming events include the Senior Breakfast on June 8th and the Graduation Party on June 20th. Planning committee meetings are continuing.

The recent breakfast and dinner fundraisers were successful.

Community Awareness – Carol Chamberlain reported that the Bike Rodeo at St. Lawrence will occur on May 12th. More than 450 kids have already signed up for the event. LADA will have information on vaping and poison prevention.

Brynn Holbrook reported that Healthy Kids Day, held on April 14th, was a success. Over 70 community members were engaged in conversations regarding Project Medicine Drop, vaping, and other health-related information.

Sticker Shock – Brynn Holbrook reported that the Sticker Shock that was planned to take place on April 2nd at Libby’s Liquors has been rescheduled for late June due to weather. Students from Campfire will take part in the rescheduled Sticker Shock.

Parents Who Host – Carol Chamberlain reported that Parents Who Host stickers and stamps will be used at local pizza places.

Recreation – Jeff Radice discussed the upcoming Memorial Day Parade. The parade will take place at 10 am on May 26th. Recreation is asking for additional groups to take part in the parade through floats. Community members can now register for summer camps, including the Youth Police Academy and other camps.

Rider University – Susan Stahley reported on upcoming events. An alcohol awareness fair will be held at Rider between showings of the Black Panther on May 10th from 4:00 to 7:30. LaLaNoBooza will be held on May 1st. Students are encouraged to take part in this fun, substance-free event, and students can collect raffle tickets and win prizes while learning about drug, alcohol, and health-related information. The DEA’s Operation Takeback will take place on April 28th from 10 am to 2 pm. Students can get rid of old prescription and over the counter medications in a safe and sustainable way during this event. Additional events include de-stress events which include information about substance-free ways of dealing with stress and an alcohol-free party with the LGBTQ communities at Rider and Mercer County Community College.

Recent events at Rider University include the Health Fair during which health information, including drug and alcohol related information, was shared and “Come Get Your Pot Day” at which students could receive free potted plants and information about marijuana. Susan reported that she recently received a gambling awareness grant and will be using it for gambling awareness events in the future, including an upcoming tailgate with mocktails. Wellness Ambassador training is continuing at Rider, but the Smoke Free Initiative has been tabled until the fall.

MCADA – Malissa discussed upcoming events, including a vaping event on April 30th hosted by Corner House, a lunch and learn event at which alternative therapies will be discussed on May 17th, a Prevention Conference and Prevention Awards, and a NARCAN training on June 14th which is open to all community members who are 15 years old or older.

3. Upcoming Events

Upcoming events include LaLaNoBooza, a fun, substance-free event at Rider University, on May 1st and the St. Lawrence Bike Rodeo, a family oriented event, on May 12th.

4. Other Business

A community health survey is being conducted in Mercer County to determine community members' views about community health needs. Residents of Mercer County are asked to participate in the survey by visiting HealthyMercer.org and completing the short online survey.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2018.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlain
Chairperson